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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent No. 1,171,012

Issue Date: January 30, 2007

Applicants: Toshiro Izuchi, et al.

Serial No.: 10/725,894

Filing Date: December 1, 2003

Title: Microphone

Examiner: Phylesha Larvinia Dabney

Art Unit: 2615

May 21, 2007

Attn: Certificate of Corrections Branch  
Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandra, VA 22313-1450

**Certificate**  
JUN 05 2007  
**of Correction**

REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION  
UNDER 37 CFR §1.322 & 35 U.S.C. 254

Sir:

A review of the above-identified U.S. Letters Patent document has revealed that a typographical error appears in the printed document. Applicant respectfully requests that the following correction be made through a Certificate of Correction, under 37 C.F.R §1.322 and 35 U.S.C 254. A form PTO/SB/44 is attached.

Requested Correction:

- (1) Column 15, line 4 of the patent "at on one end thereof" should be  
-- "at one end thereof"-- as it appears on page 2, line 15 of the Corrected Request for  
Amendment Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.312(A) dated October 24, 2006 (marked-up copy  
enclosed).

This error is a typographical error made by the Patent and Trademark Office; therefore, no fee is required.

JUN - 5 2007

We request correction of the error and a certified copy of the enclosed PTO/SB 44 returned to the undersigned counsel for attachment to the original Letters Patent document.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enc. PTO Form PTO/SB 44  
Return receipt postcard

**Certificate of Mailing Under 37 CFR 1.8**

I certify that this "Request for Certificate of Correction" and all enclosed materials are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on May 21, 2007 with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Attn: Certificate of Corrections Branch, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



David N. Lathrop

## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

Page 1 of 1

PATENT NO. : 7,171,012

APPLICATION NO.: 10/725,894

ISSUE DATE : 01/30/2007

INVENTOR(S) : Toshiro Izuchi, et al.

It is certified that an error appears or errors appear in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

- (1) Column 15, line 4 of the patent "at on one end thereof" should be  
-- "at one end thereof"--.

MAILING ADDRESS OF SENDER (Please do not use customer number below):

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.322, 1.323, and 1.324. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.0 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Attention Certificate of Corrections Branch, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

JUN - 5 2007



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Toshiro Izuchi, et al.

Serial No.: 10/725,894

Filing Date: December 1, 2003

Title: Microphone

Conf. No. 3370

Examiner: Phylesha Larvinia Dabney

Art Unit: 2615

COPY

October 24, 2006  
San Francisco, California

Attn: Phylesha Larvinia Dabney  
Art Unit 2615  
Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**CORRECTED REQUEST FOR AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.312(A)**

Sir:

We are submitting this "Corrected Request for Amendment Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.312(A)" in response to the Office Communication mailed on October 18, 2006. As requested by the Examiner, we have replaced incorrect status identifiers ("previously amended" and "previously added") with the correct status identifier: "previously presented."

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## CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (currently amended) An electret condenser microphone comprising:

a condenser section that comprises:

an electrically conductive diaphragm,  
an electrically conductive back electrode board disposed in parallel  
opposition to said diaphragm with a gap space therebetween, and  
an electret film formed on a surface of said back electrode board  
facing the diaphragm or on a surface of said diaphragm facing the back  
electrode board; and

a capsule accommodating said condenser section therein, said capsule having a side  
wall and a cover board affixed to a surface of said back electrode board facing away from  
the diaphragm so that said cover board and said back electrode board form a complex front  
board arrangement for the microphone; wherein

said back electrode board has a first through-aperture formed therethrough to  
communicate at ~~on~~ one end thereof to the gap space between the diaphragm and the back  
electrode board;

said cover board has a second through-aperture formed therethrough which  
communicates at one end thereof to an outside of said electret condenser microphone, and is  
positioned so as not to be in alignment with the first through-aperture with a distance  
therebetween which is longer than either thickness of the back electrode board and the cover  
board; and

said complex front board arrangement has a connecting path at an interface including  
opposing surfaces of said cover board and said back electrode board, wherein the connecting  
path extends perpendicularly to axes of said first and second through-apertures and is  
connected to the first and second through-apertures;

whereby said electret film communicates with the outside through said connecting  
path and said first and second through-apertures, and an ingress of grit from the outside to  
said electret film is suppressed by said connecting path.

2. (previously presented) The microphone as set forth in claim 1 wherein:

a surface of said cover board is affixed in intimate contact to a surface of said back electrode board, and

said connecting path of the complex front board arrangement is a connecting slit formed in at least one of the intimately affixed surfaces of the back electrode board and the cover board.

3. (original) The microphone as set forth in claim 2 wherein:

said connecting slit is formed as a V-shaped groove or channel in the surface of either one of the back electrode board and the cover board in which it is formed to a depth of up to 50  $\mu\text{m}$  so as to serve as an acoustic resistance slit.

4. (previously presented) The microphone as set forth in claim 2 wherein:

said capsule is in the form of an electrically conductive cylindrical cup having a front board serving as said cover board; and

said connecting slit of the complex board arrangement is formed in a surface of said front board facing the back electrode board.

5. (previously presented) The microphone as set forth in claim 2 wherein:

said capsule is in the form of an electrically conductive cylindrical cup having a front board serving as said cover board; and

said connecting slit of the complex board arrangement is formed in a surface of said back electrode board facing the front board.

6. (previously presented) The microphone as set forth in claim 4 wherein said electret film is disposed on the surface of said diaphragm facing the back electrode board.

7. (previously presented) The microphone as set forth in claim 5 wherein said electret film is disposed on the surface of said diaphragm facing the back electrode board.

8. (previously presented) The microphone as set forth in claim 1 wherein:

said complex front board arrangement further comprises an annular disk-shaped spacer;

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said cover board is affixed to said back electrode board with said annular disk-shaped spacer interposed therebetween;

a gap space is formed at said interface between said back electrode board and said cover board and

said gap space is adapted to act as said connecting path of the complex front board arrangement.

9. (previously presented) The microphone as set forth in claim 8 wherein:

said capsule is in the form of an electrically conductive cylindrical cup having a front board serving as said cover board; and

said electret film is disposed on the surface of said back electrode board facing said diaphragm.

10. (previously presented) The microphone as set forth in claim 8 wherein:

said capsule is in the form of an electrically conductive cylindrical cup having a front board serving as said cover board; and

said electret film is disposed on the surface of said diaphragm facing the back electrode board.

11. (previously presented) The microphone as set forth in claim 4 wherein said electret film is disposed on the surface of said back electrode board facing the diaphragm.

12. (previously presented) The microphone as set forth in claim 5 wherein said electret film is disposed on the surface of said back electrode board facing the diaphragm.

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## REMARKS

Applicants request entry of an amendment to claim 1 to correct a minor typographical error. Applicants believe it should be entered because entry of this amendment will not affect the scope of any claim, will not require any additional search, will not require more than a cursory review of the record, and will not impose any substantial amount of additional work on the part of the US PTO.

Respectfully submitted,



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### Certificate of Transmission

I certify that this Corrected Request For Amendment Pursuant To 37 CFR 1.312(A) and any following materials are being transmitted by facsimile on October 24, 2006 to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at telephone number (571) 273-8300.



David N. Lathrop

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